



# The Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ): purpose, development, usage



## Open Access: New Trends in Scholarly Communication

Monday, April 14th, 2008

**University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki**

Lars Björnshauge,

Director of Libraries

Lund University, Sweden

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Welcome to the Directory of Open Access Journals. This service covers free, full text, quality controlled and scholarly journals. We aim to cover all subjects and languages. There are now **3315** journals in the directory. Currently **1114** journals are searchable at article level. As of today **178817** articles are in the DOAJ service.

Support the development and operation of DOAJ. Sign up for membership - go to the [membership page](#). We are very thankful for the support from those of you who have already decided to become DOAJ members. See the [membership page](#).

Find journals

### Browse by title

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### Browse by subject

[Expand Subject Tree](#)

- [Agriculture and Food Sciences](#)
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- [Biology and Life Sciences](#)
- [Business and Economics](#)
- [Chemistry](#)
- [Earth and Environmental Sciences](#)
- [General Works](#)
- [Health Sciences](#)
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- [Law and Political Science](#)
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- [Philosophy and Religion](#)
- [Physics and Astronomy](#)
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- [Social Sciences](#)
- [Technology and Engineering](#)



## Purpose of the DOAJ:

- making it easier for
  - **aggregators & libraries** to integrate OA-journals data in their services
  - **OA-publishers** to get their journals visible
  - **readers** to find OA-material
  - **authors** to find a journal to publish in OA



## What we hope to see ...

Increased visibility and access to Open Access journals

= Increased usage

= Increased citation

= Increased impact

= Increased usage...

etc etc



## What is DOAJ:

- A collection of **peer reviewed** open access journals
- Scope: All disciplines – all languages
- One interface
- Provides metadata harvesting services based on the OAI-PMH protocol for libraries and other service providers
- Provides search service for end-users



## Selection criteria

- Open Access
  - no embargo!
- Quality control measures,
  - the journal must exercise peer-review or editorial quality control in order to be included in the DOAJ.
- Scientific or scholarly content
  - Researcher as primary target group



## Open Access – our definition:

Open access journals = journals that use a funding model that **does not charge readers or their institutions for access.**

The BOAI definition of "open access" = the right of **"users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles"** as mandatory criteria



- **History:**

- Initiated during the first Nordic Conference on Scholarly Communication in Lund/Copenhagen October 2002
- Initially funded by Open Society Institute and co-funded by SPARC
- Project started January 2003
- Service launched 12th of May 2003 with 300+ journals



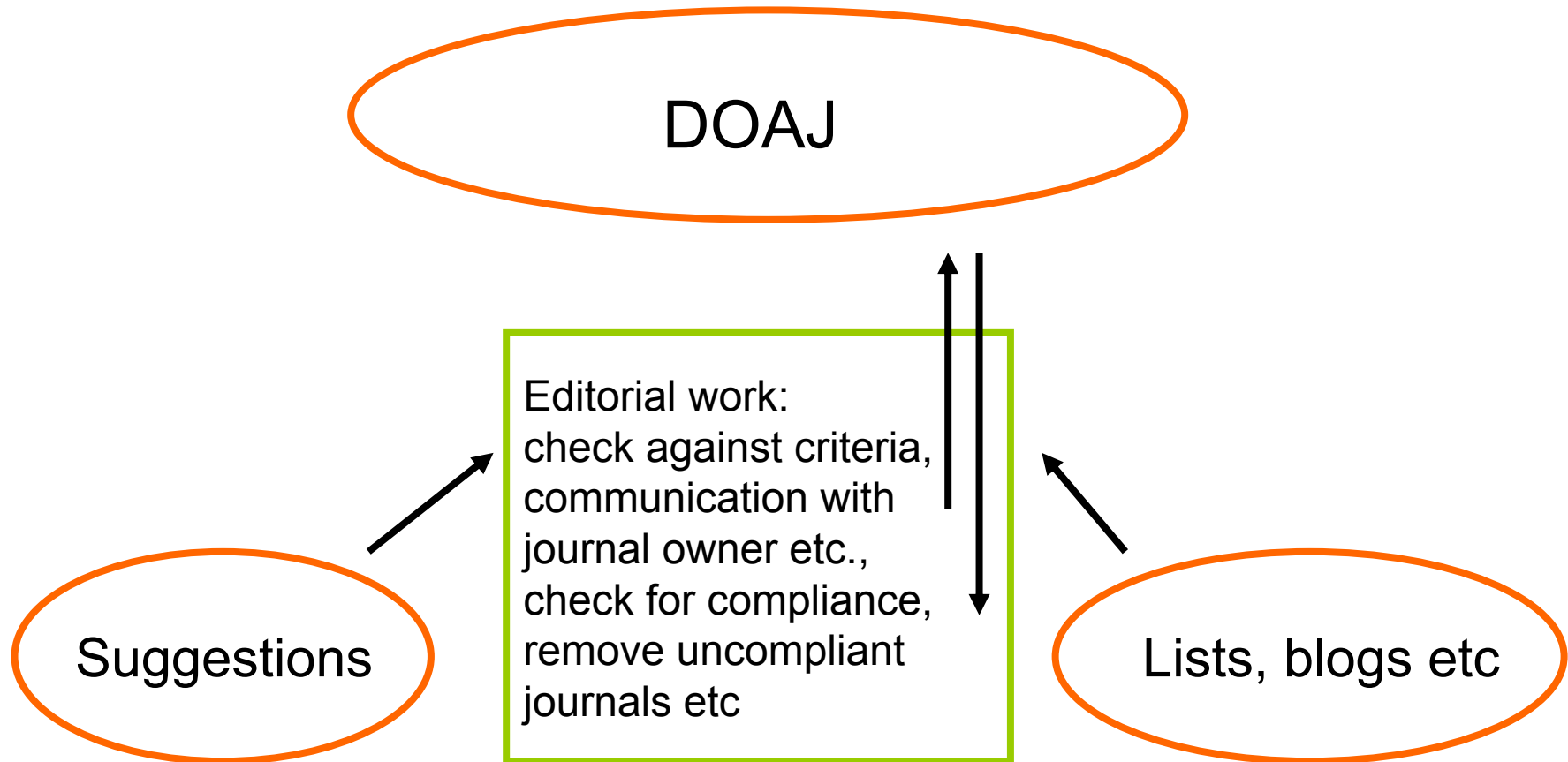


## Number of journals listed in the DOAJ

- May 2003: 300
- November 2003: 558
- May 2004: 1097
- November 2004: 1345
- May 2005: 1601
- November 2005: 1905
- May 2006: 2230
- November 2006: 2450
- May 2007: 2700
- November 2007: 2950
- April 2008: 3315



# The Editorial Process (simplified)



[Find Journals](#)

**New titles (added the last 30 days)**

[New titles](#)

73 journals added the last 30 days

[Find articles](#)

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[African Health Sciences](#)

ISSN: 16806905

Subject: [Medicine \(General\)](#)

Publisher: Makerere University Medical School

Language: English

Keywords: public health, Uganda, health planning

Start year: 2001

[About](#)

[FAQ](#)

[News](#)

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[African Journal of Health Sciences](#) **DOAJ Content**

ISSN: 10229272

Subject: [Medicine \(General\)](#)

Publisher: Kenya Medical Research Institute

Language: English

Keywords: health research, Africa

Start year: 2005

[Membership](#)

[Contact](#)

**For journal owners**

**For authors**

[Americana : E-Journal of American Studies in Hungary](#)

ISSN: 17874637

Subject: [Languages and Literatures](#)

Publisher: Department of American Studies, University of Szeged

Language: English

Keywords: USA, American culture, American history, American society

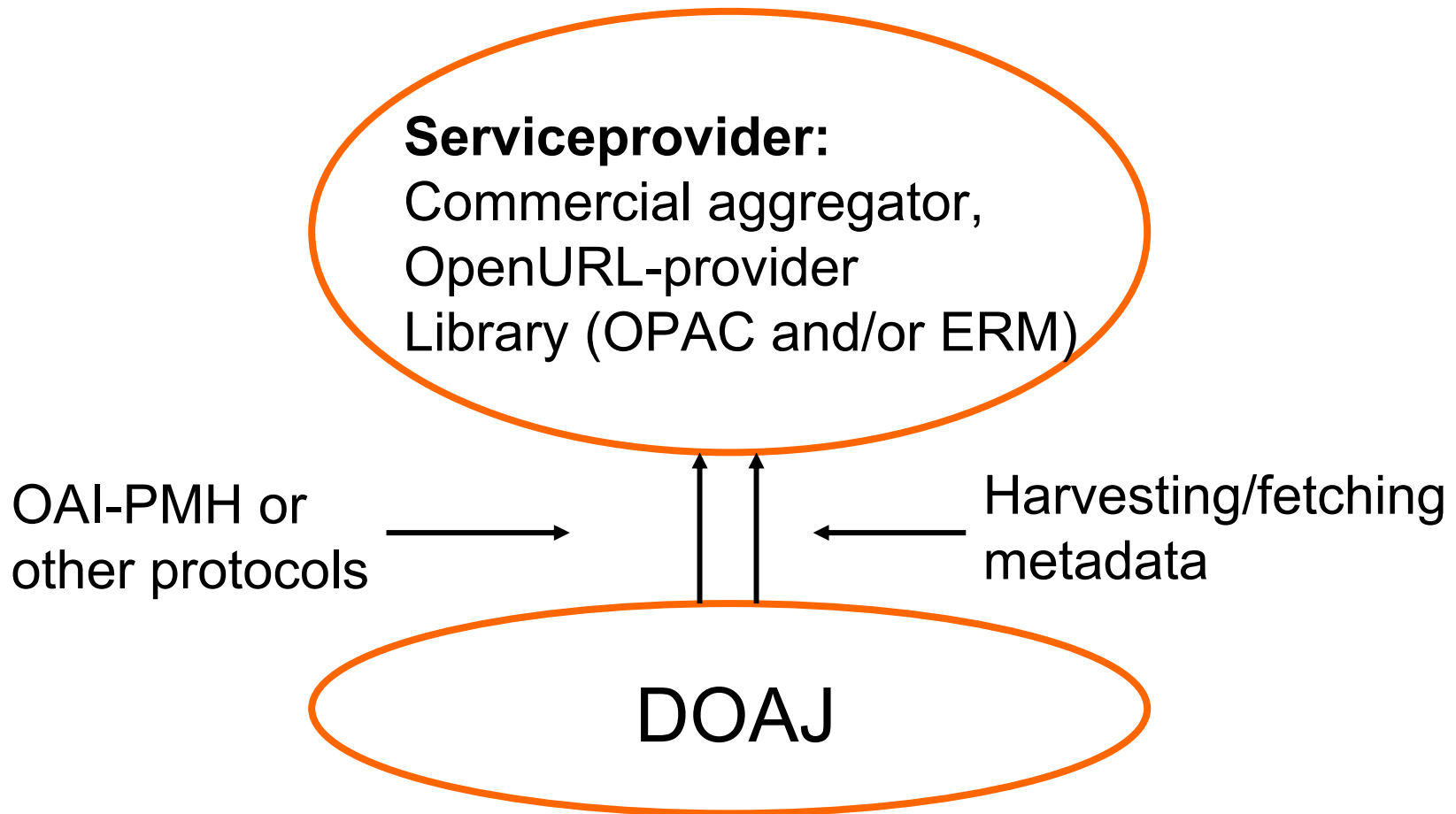
Start year: 2005

[Banach Journal of Mathematical Analysis](#)

ISSN: 17358787



# Using DOAJ for harvesting Metadata



## How can I get journal metadata from DOAJ?

The DOAJ service supports the OAI protocol for metadata harvesting ([OAI-PMH](#)). Thus, any other service can obtain records from DOAJ for inclusion in their collection. OAI is well established, and easy to use. The base URL is: <http://www.doaj.org/oai>. You can add most OAI verbs and other commands directly on that. A few examples:

Verb: Identify

<http://www.doaj.org/oai?verb=Identify>

Verb: ListMetadataFormats

<http://www.doaj.org/oai?verb=ListMetadataFormats>

Verb: ListRecords&from=2004-01-01&metadataPrefix=oai\_dc

[http://www.doaj.org/oai?verb=ListRecords&from=2004-03-01&metadataPrefix=oai\\_dc](http://www.doaj.org/oai?verb=ListRecords&from=2004-03-01&metadataPrefix=oai_dc)

From these URLs you'll get both an idea of what OAI is, and much of our metadata. See also [our example](#).

You have also the possibility to download the list of records in DOAJ in a comma separated format. Then you can import the file to Excel or some other software to use the records further. Do as follows:

- Download the file from <http://www.doaj.org/doaj?func=csv> to your own computer
- Open e.g. Excel
- Go to the menu Data -> Get External Data -> Import Text File
- From there you can choose how you want the spread sheet to look like e.g., delimited-> Comma -> General

## How do I get article level metadata from DOAJ?

The article level metadata can be harvested using OAI protocol.

The base URL is: <http://www.doaj.org/oai.article>

Use OAI verbs and other command options directly on that.

Example:

Verb: ListRecords&from=2004-07-01&metadataPrefix=oai\_dc

[http://www.doaj.org/oai.article?verb=ListRecords&from=2004-07-15&metadataPrefix=oai\\_dc](http://www.doaj.org/oai.article?verb=ListRecords&from=2004-07-15&metadataPrefix=oai_dc)

## Do you have any restrictions for the use of your metadata?

**HEAL-Link Search**

Federated Search in the electronic sources of HEAL-Link, the Collective Catalog of Greek Academic Libraries and in selected Web pages.

[Search](#)

**Quick Search**

Keyword Search for tracing Subject Categories-Subcategories, Subjects and titles of journals.

[Search](#)

**Services**

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  - [Alphabetic Index](#)
  - [Subject Categories](#)
- [Bibliographic / Full Text Databases](#)
- [Electronic Books/Dictionaries](#)
- [Publishers](#)

**My HEAL-Link**

E-mail:

Password:

[Enter](#)

**Alphabetic Index**

0-9 [A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

- [B Quest](#) DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals) (1996 - )
- [B to B](#) Wilson (2000 - )
- [B.C. Asian Review](#) DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals) (1997 - )
- [Babel](#) ALPSP (2000 - )
- [Baby Talk](#) Wilson (1999 - )
- [Back Letter, The](#) Lippincott Williams & Wilkins (1987 - )
- [Backpacker](#) Wilson (2002 - after 3 months from publication)
- [Bailliere's Clinical Anaesthesiology \(continued as Best Practice & Research Clinical Anaesthesiology\)](#) Elsevier (ScienceDirect) (1987 - 1998)
- [Bailliere's Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism \(formerly known as Clinics in Endocrinology and Metabolism\) \(continued as Best Practice & Research Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism\)](#) Elsevier (ScienceDirect) (1987 - 1998)
- [Bailliere's Clinical Gastroenterology \(continued as Best Practice & Research Clinical Gastroenterology\)](#) Elsevier (ScienceDirect) (1987 - 1998)
- [Bailliere's Clinical Haematology \(continued as Best Practice & Research Clinical Haematology\)](#) Elsevier (ScienceDirect) (1987 - 1998)
- [Bailliere's Clinical Obstetrics and Gynaecology \(continued as Best Practice & Research Clinical Obstetrics and Gynaecology\)](#) Elsevier (ScienceDirect) (1987 - 1998)





1. "Reactions Weekly" to "Rendiconti del Seminario Matem"

Find:   [Advanced Search](#)

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Titles where title name begins with 'RE': 184

## Reactions Weekly

[EBSCOhost EJS](#) 2000 - 2003 **Your Access:** Jan 1 2002 - Oct 9 2004

ISSN: 0114-9954

Publisher: Adis International Limited

Subject: Medicine -- Therapeutics, Pharmacology

## Reading in a foreign language

[DOAJ: Directory of Open Access Journals](#) 2002 to present

ISSN: 0264-2425 Online ISSN: 1539-0578

Publisher: University of Hawaii

Subject: Language and literature

## The reading matrix: an international online journal

[DOAJ: Directory of Open Access Journals](#) 2001 to present

ISSN: 1533-242X

Publisher: University of Notre Dame

Subject: Language and literature

## Reading online

[DOAJ: Directory of Open Access Journals](#) 1997 to present


ISSN: 1096-1232

Publisher: International Reading Association

Subject: Education -- Theory and practice of education

## Recueil International de Législation Sanitaire

[Free Medical Journals](#) 1998 to present


[Nätet](#) [Bilder](#) [Grupper](#) [Nyheter](#) <sup>Nytt!</sup>

[Avancerad sökning](#)  
[Inställningar](#)

Sök hela webben  Sök svenska sidor

**Nätet** Resultat 1 - 10 av ungefär 667,000,000 vid sökning efter **open access**. (0.15 sekunder)

Tips: [Sök endast efter svenska resultat](#). Du kan ställa in sökspråk i [Inställningar](#)

### [Directory of open access journals](#)

Categorized, searchable links to free, full text, quality controlled scientific and scholarly journals

[www.doaj.org/](#) - 9k - 5 jun 2007 - [Cachad](#) - [Liknande sidor](#)

### [Open access - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)

**Open access** (OA) means immediate, free and unrestricted online access to digital scholarly material[2], primarily peer-reviewed research articles in ...

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open\\_access](#) - 89k - [Cachad](#) - [Liknande sidor](#)

### [Peter Suber, Open Access Overview \(definition, introduction\)](#)

Focusing on **open access** to peer-reviewed research articles and their preprints. This is an introduction to **open access** (OA) for those who are new to the ...

[www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/overview.htm](#) - 47k - [Cachad](#) - [Liknande sidor](#)

### [Peter Suber, Open Access News](#)

The Project is **open access** and will be made completely available to scientists, clinicians and all those with an interest worldwide. ...

[www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/fosblog.html](#) - 5 jun 2007 - [Liknande sidor](#)

[ [Fler resultat från www.earlham.edu](#) ]

### [Open Access - Wikipedia](#)

**Open Access** (engelsk freier, kostenloser Zugang) bezeichnet das Ziel, wissenschaftliche Literatur und Materialien frei zugänglich zu machen. ...

[de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open\\_Access](#) - 44k - [Cachad](#) - [Liknande sidor](#)

### [Welcome to Open Access](#)

UK Countryside Agency's portal on public use rights under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act of 2000.

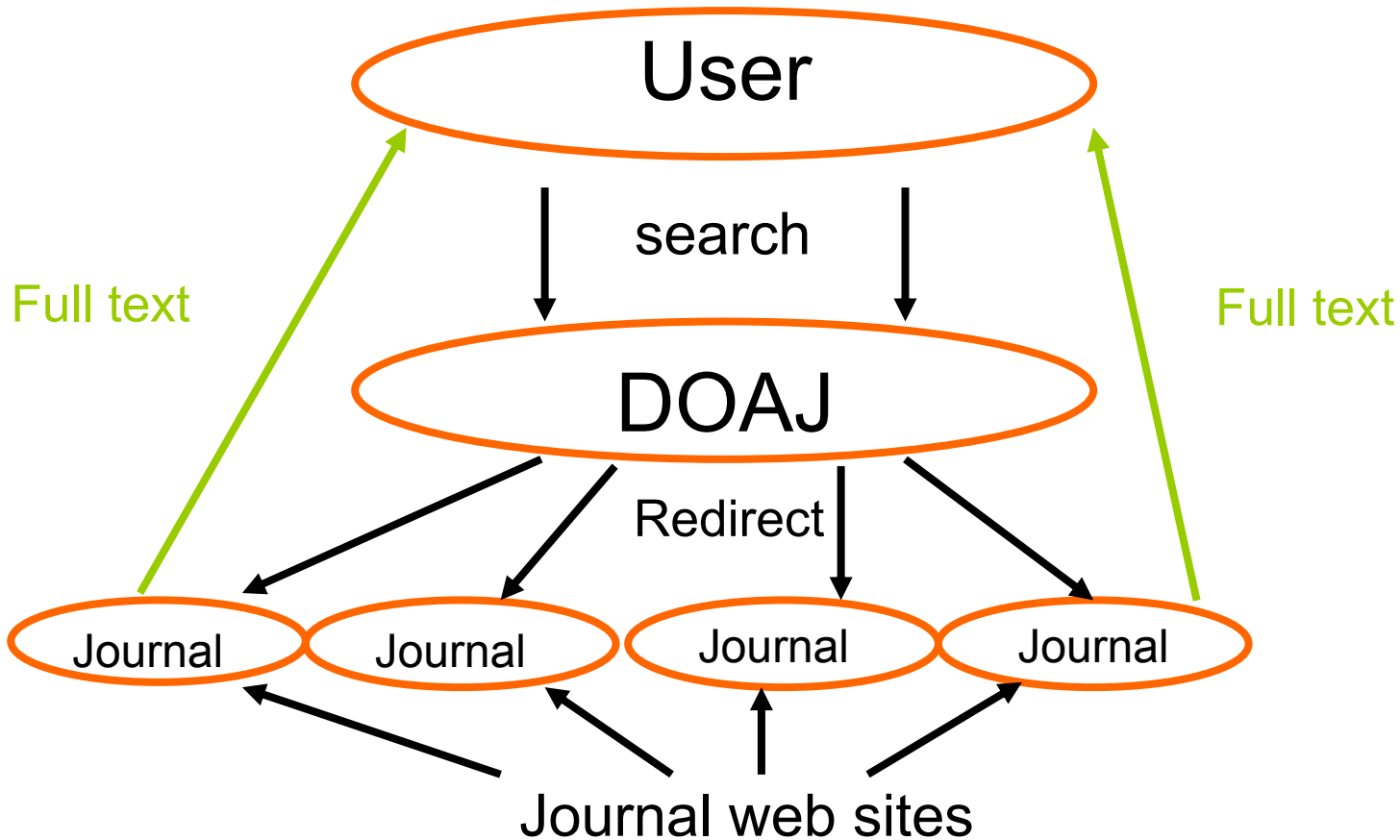
[www.openaccess.gov.uk/](#) - 10k - [Cachad](#) - [Liknande sidor](#)

### [Budapest Open Access Initiative](#)





# Using DOAJ for searching/browsing



+ 500.000 redirects per month

[Find Journals](#)

**Find articles**

[New titles](#)

(more than one word in a field will be treated as **phrase**)

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[Suggest a journal](#)

bird flu

In: All Fields

[About](#)

AND  OR  NOT

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## Find articles

Found 3 documents matching your query :  
*All Fields=*bird flu



Presenting page 1/1



### Bird Flu: A recent threat to human health

**Author:** Asad U. Khan **Journal:** Bioinformation **Year:** 2006 **Vol:** 1 **Issue:** 4

**Pages/record No.:** 132-132

[View record](#)

[Fulltext](#)

### Searching of Main Cause Leading to Severe Influenza A Virus Mutations and Consequently to Influenza Pandemics/Epidemics

**Author:** Guang Wu and Shaomin Yan **Journal:** American Journal of Infectious Diseases

**Year:** 2005 **Vol:** 1 **Issue:** 2 **Pages/record No.:** 116-123

[View record](#)

[Fulltext](#)

### Avian influenza a (H5N1): A preliminary review

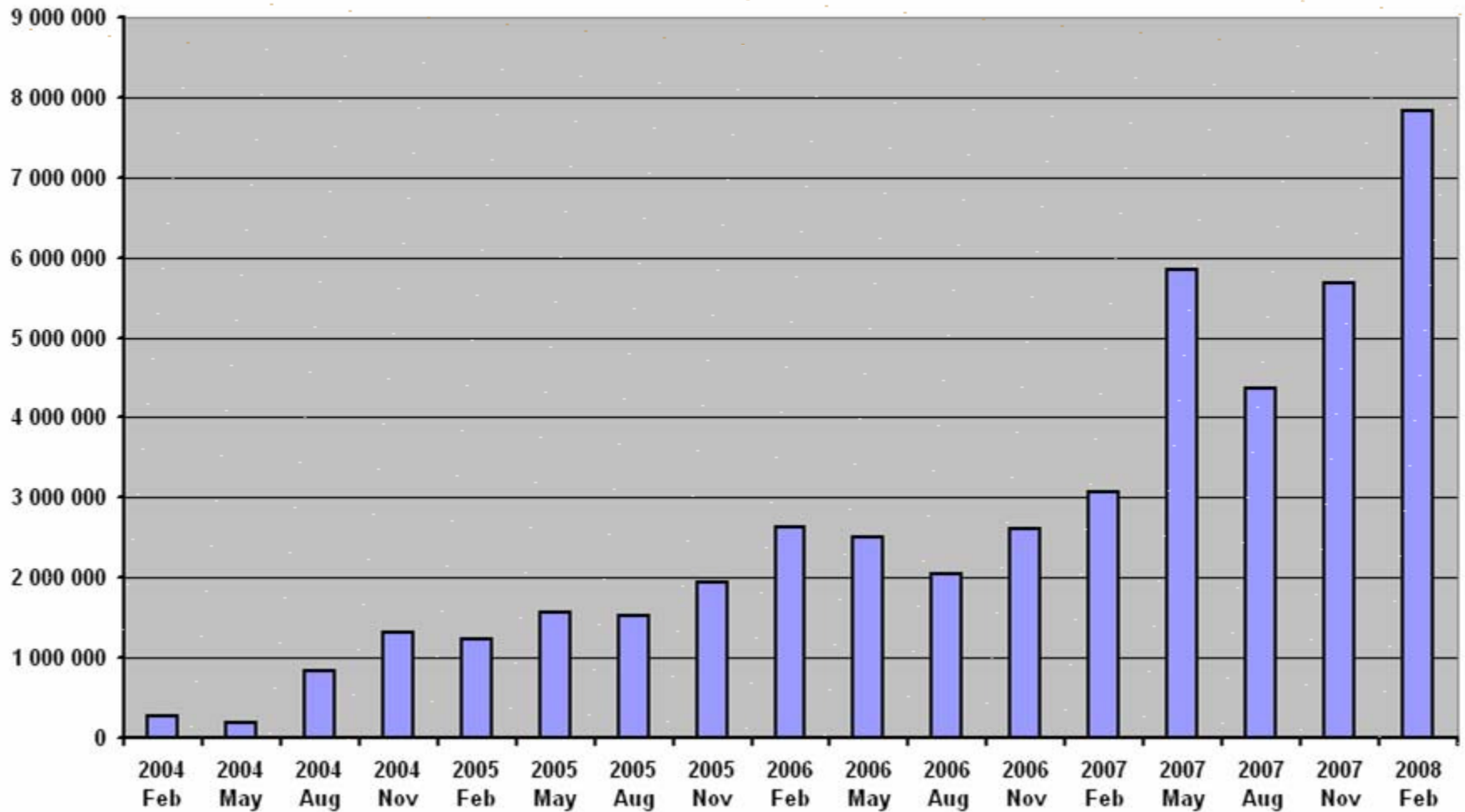
**Author:** Padhi S ; Panigrahi P ; Mahapatra A ; Mahapatra S **Journal:** Indian Journal of

**Medical Microbiology** **Year:** 2004 **Vol:** 22 **Issue:** 3 **Pages/record No.:** 143-146

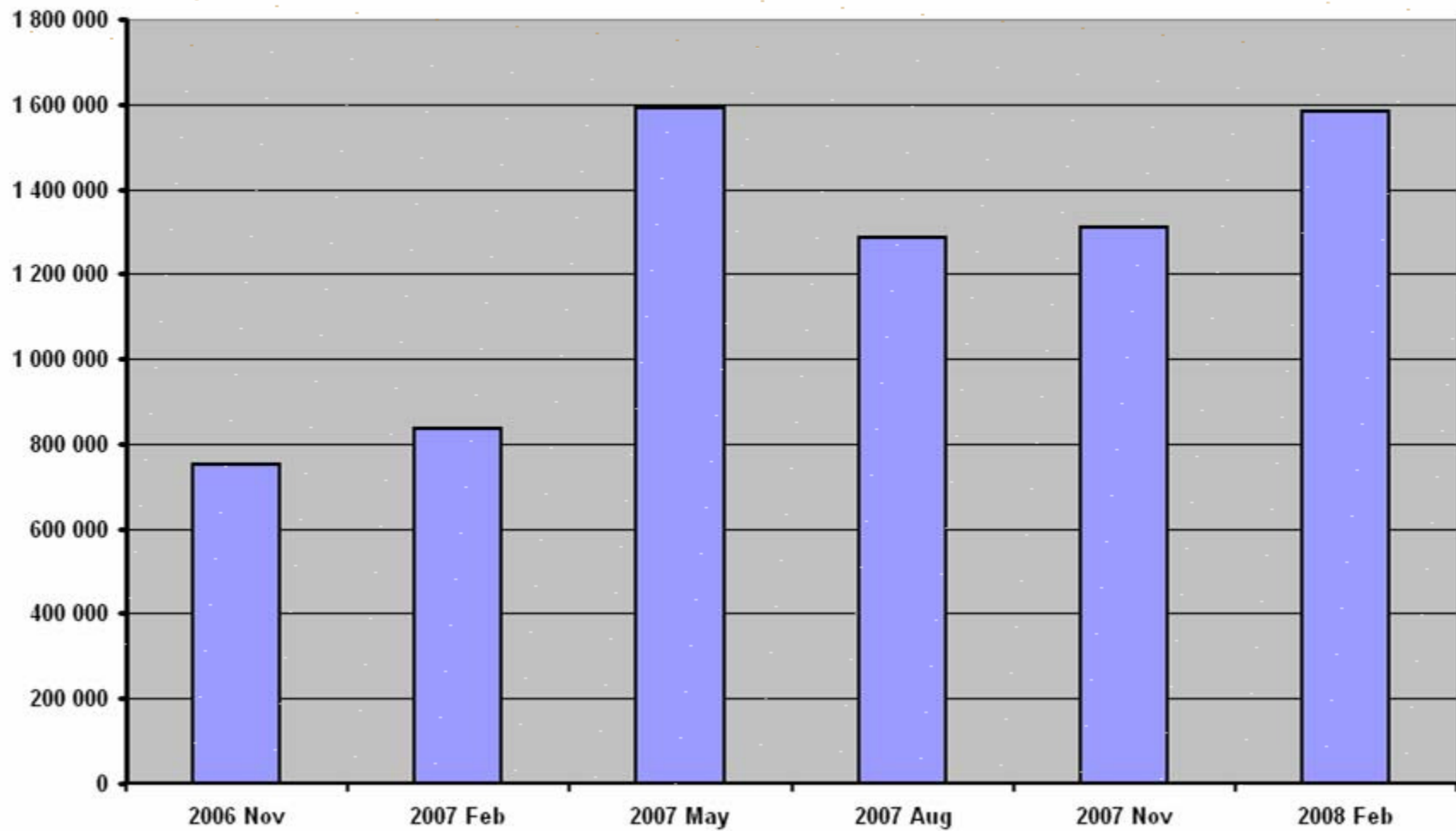
[View record](#)

[Fulltext](#)

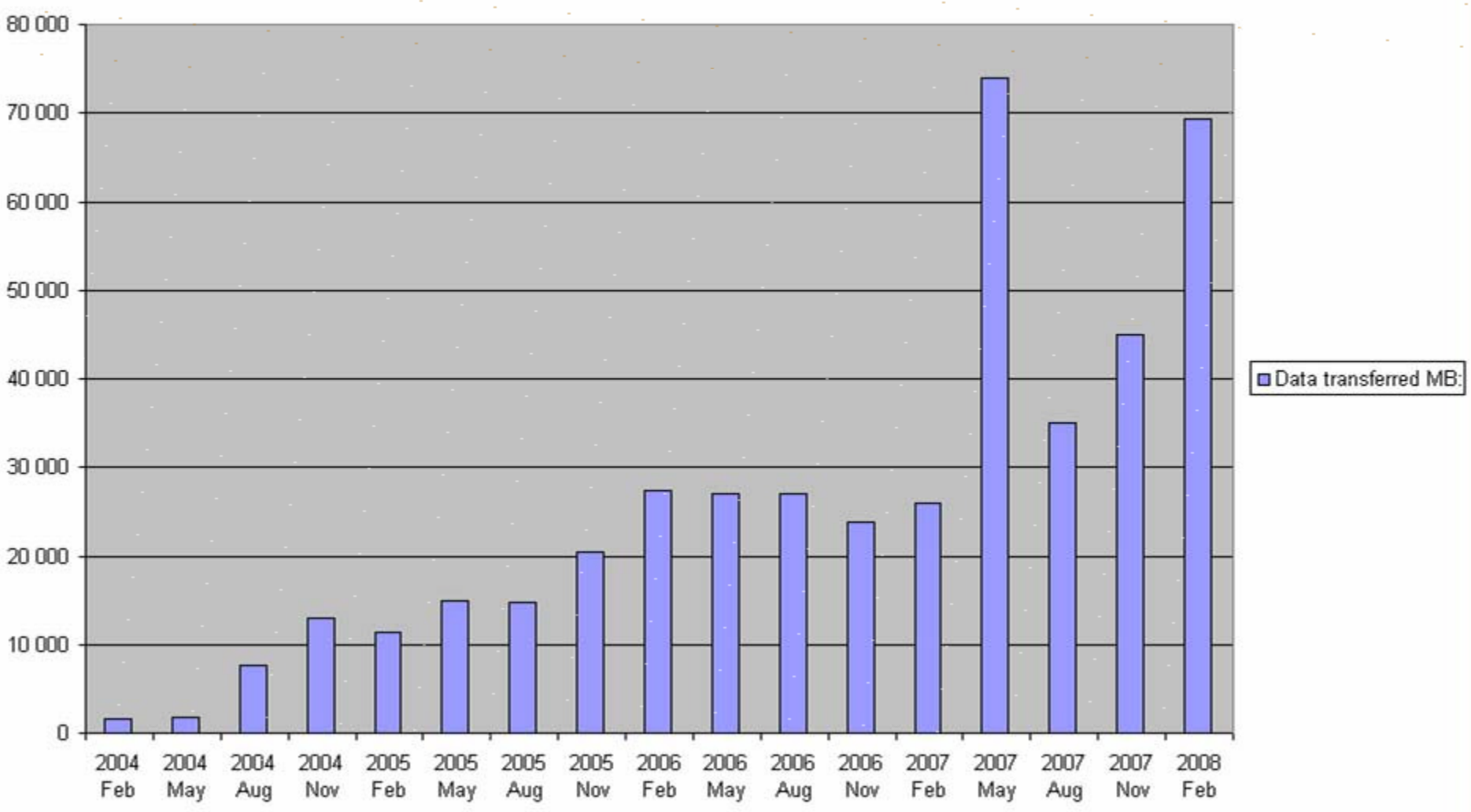
## Visits to www.doaj.org per month



## Users redirected to journal



### Data transferred MB:





## Usage of the DOAJ service

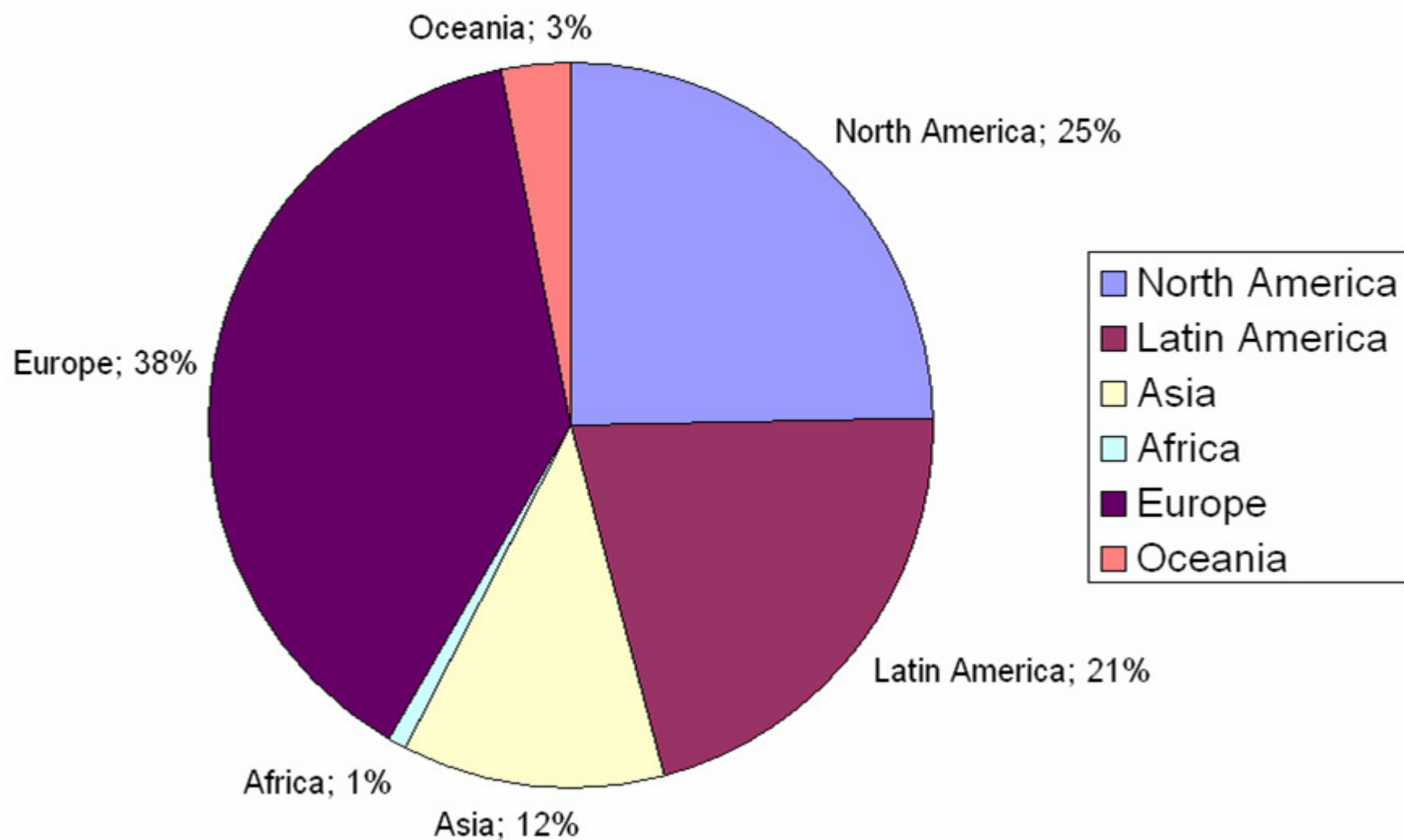
- Every month visits from 160+ countries
- Requested files increasing
- Distinct host served increasing
- Amount of data transferred increasing
- Visits from OAI-harvesters increasing
- Number of abstracts presented increasing
- Number of links to articles followed increasing



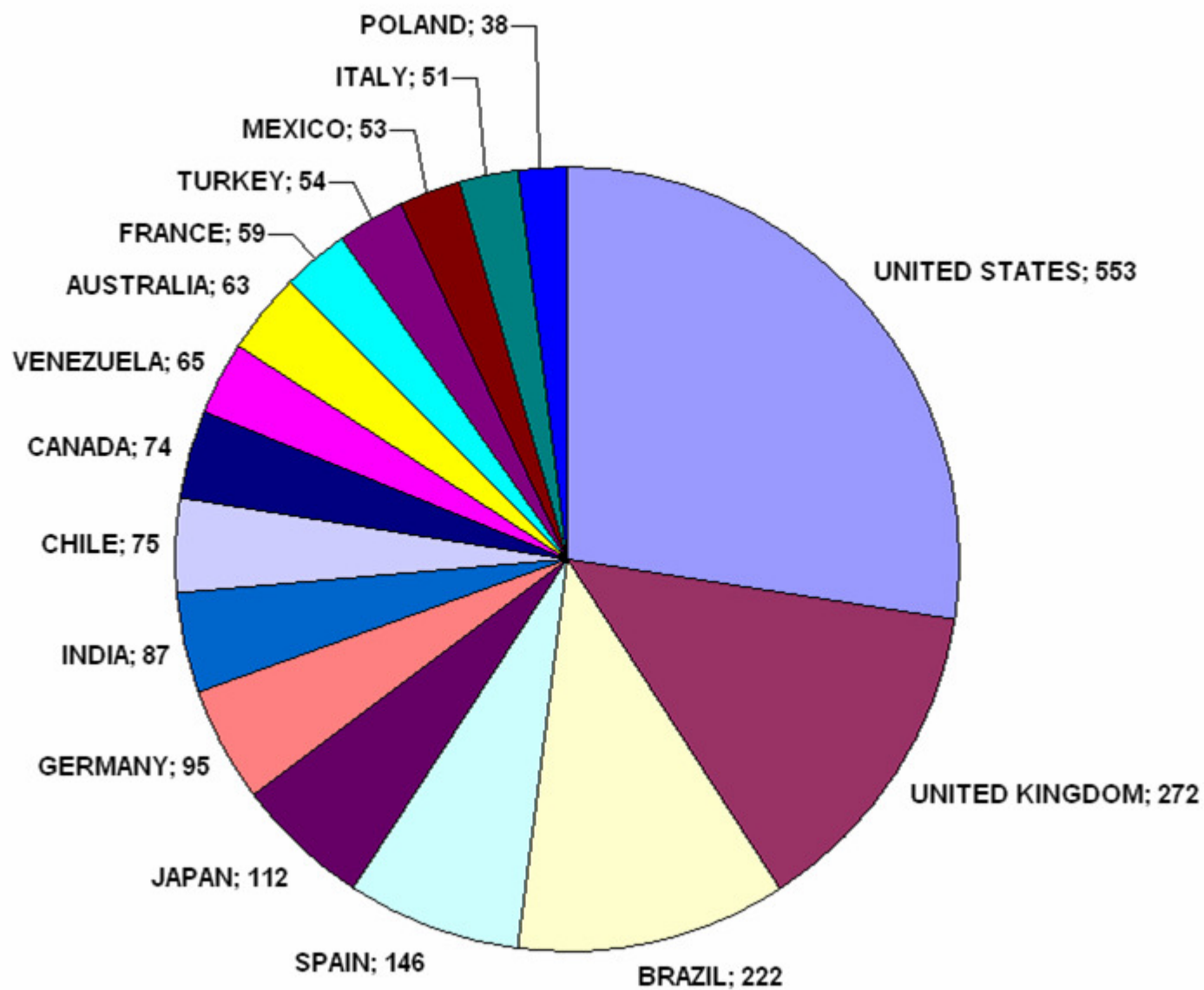
- Global visibility and dissemination of records
  - Integrated in OPAC's in many, many libraries
  - Several service providers are linking to DOAJ
  - Integrated in the services of aggregators (Serial Solutions, Ullrichs, Ebsco, OVID etc.)
  - And OpenURL-providers (Exlibris etc.)
- Frequently referred to as the most important listing



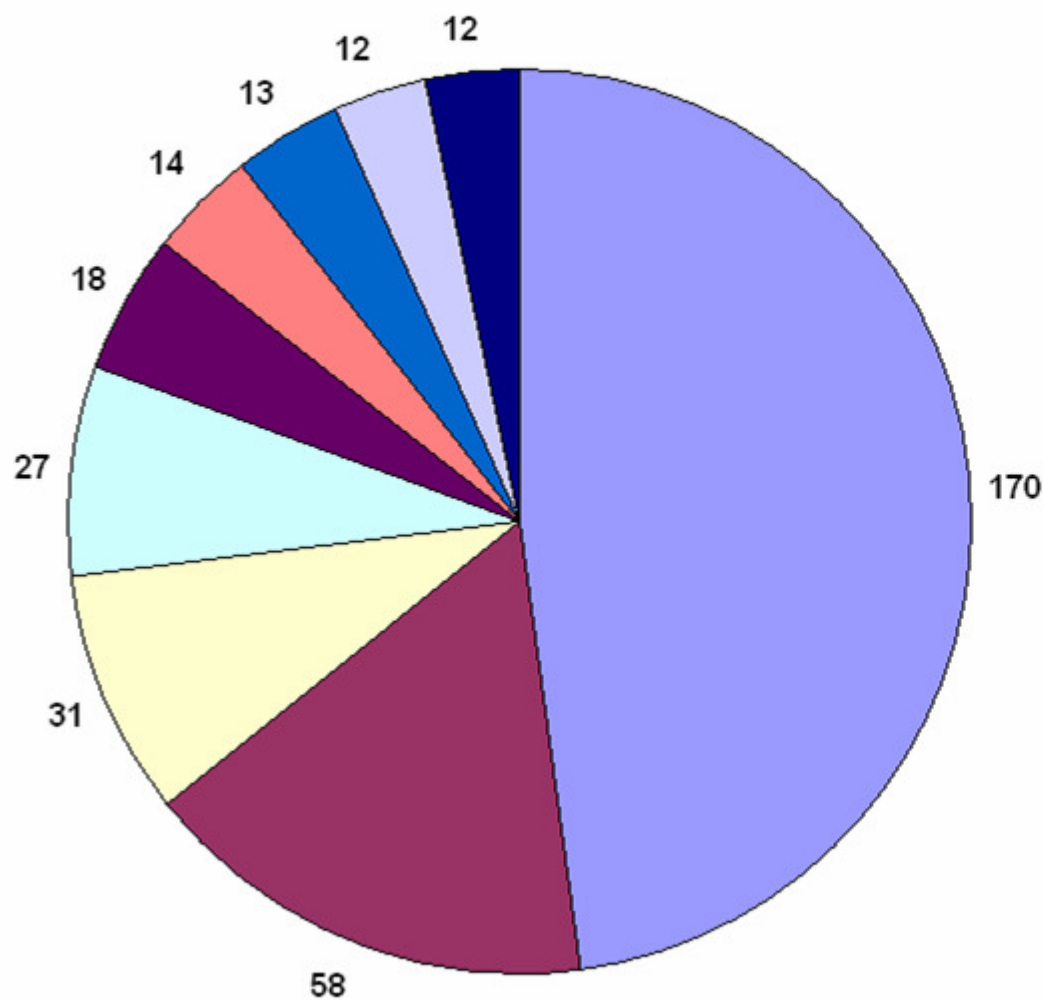
## Journals per Continent (percentage)



### Journals per Country (top 15)



## Top 10 Publishers in DOAJ





## Publishers in DOAJ

- 10 Publishers with 10+ Journals
- 24 Publishers with 5+ Journals
- 1906 Publishers with 1 Journal!
- 2044 Publishers in total as of June 2007!
  
- Journals published in more than 80 countries
- More than 40 languages represented



## Service for authors

- **Where** can I publish in Open Access?
  - Golden Road to Open Access
    - Open Access Journals
      - Publication Charges?
  - Hybrid Journals
    - Publication charges?



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Welcome to the author service of DOAJ - The Directory of Open Access & Hybrid Journals. Here where to publish your research as **Open Access (OA)**:

Find journals

ALL  No publication fee  Publication fee

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## Browse by subject

### Expand Subject Tree

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## Browse by subject

[Expand Subject Tree](#)

[Subjects](#) ▸ [Biology and Life Sciences](#) ▸ [Life Sciences](#) ▸ [Biotechnology](#)

22 journals belonging to subject: **Biotechnology**

[AgBioforum Open Access](#)

ISSN: 1522936X

Subject: [Biotechnology](#)

Publisher: University of Missouri, Columbia, Agriculture & Engineering Department

Language: English

Keywords: agricultural economics, biotechnology, agriculture

Start Year: 1998

[American Journal of Biochemistry and Biotechnology Open Access](#)

ISSN: 15533468

Subject: [Biochemistry](#) --- [Biotechnology](#)

Publisher: Science Publications

Language: English

Keywords: life sciences, biochemistry, evolutionary biotechnology, structural biology, molecular biology, cellular biology, molecular medicine, cancer research, virology, immunology

Start Year: 2005

[Applied Biochemistry and Microbiology Hybrid journal](#)

ISSN: 00036838

Subject: [Microbiology](#) --- [Biology](#) --- [Biochemistry](#) --- [Biotechnology](#)

Publisher: Kluwer

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## Authors FAQ

### Publishing in Open Access scholarly journals: what are the options?

Q. What is an Open Access journal?

A. An OA-journal uses a funding model that does not charge subscription fees for access. The content is freely available to all.

Q. Why should I publish in an OA journal?

A. Making publications freely available electronically increases their use and the number of times they are cited. By making your publication freely available your impact will grow. See "The effect of open access and downloads ('hits') on citation impact: a bibliography of studies" for more information on this.  
<http://opcit.eprints.org/oacitation-biblio.html>

Q. What about the quality of OA journals?

A. Scholarly OA journals use the same quality criteria as traditional subscription journals, i.e. external or internal peer-review.

Q. Where do I find OA journals?

A. In the [Directory of Open Access Journals](#). The Directory aims to be comprehensive and cover all open access scientific and scholarly journals that use a quality control system to guarantee the content. A journal is included in the DOAJ only if submitted papers are quality controlled through an editor, editorial board and/or a peer-review system.

Q. What is the author pays model?

A. The publishing cost is paid by the author- when his/her article is accepted by a journal. The article is free to all readers. The "author-pays" model has nothing to do with the fees charged by traditional subscription journals for colour prints and/or tables.

Q. What is a hybrid journal?

A. A journal based on traditional subscription revenues with the author pays model on





# Cooperation with INASP (International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications)

Country of Publication	No. of Journals in DOAJ	Country of Publication	No. of Journals in DOAJ	Country of Publication	No. of Journals in DOAJ
Bangladesh	2	Georgia	4	Nepal	3
Belarus	1	Ghana	1	Nigeria	8
Bhutan	1	Guatemala	2	Pakistan	23
Bosnia	1	India	89	Peru	12
Brazil	238	Indonesia	1	Philippines	2
Bulgaria	6	Iran	18	Senegal	1
China	6	Kenya	1	Serbia and Montenegro	8
Colombia	34	Korea	13	Thailand	1
Cuba	21	Macedonia	1	Ukraine	9
Ecuador	1	Morocco	1		
Egypt	6	Mozambique	1		

Working with journals from developing countries

# Cooperation with SPARC Europe: Certification programme for Open Access Journals



- SPARC Europe Seal for Open Access Journals:

- Explicit re-use policies (CC-BY licence)
  - Allow storage of full-text
  - Allow data- and/or text-mining Ability to provide XML-metadata on article level
- Ability to provide XML-metadata on article level

**To be launched very soon!**



# Long Term Archiving

Discussions with the Royal Library  
of the Netherlands (KB) concerning  
provision of full-text of DOAJ-journals for  
long term archiving



## Summary of review in the Charleston Adviser Jan 2008

- DOAJ
  - is a significant resource.
  - has developed a well-deserved reputation for quality,
  - is the world's most authoritative list of fully open access, peer-reviewed titles.
  - the title list is very impressive
  - is growing dramatically.
  - the service provided by is so obviously important
  - the membership fees are such an incredible bargain, that it seems highly likely that ongoing economic security will be a reality for DOAJ in the not too distant future.
  - libraries, consortia, universities and research centres should consider membership;
  - vendors serving the library community are well advised to consider DOAJ membership or sponsorship.



## Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

Review Scores Composite: ★★★★★ 3/4

*The maximum number of stars in each category is 5.*

**Content:** ★★★★★

DOAJ is the world's most authoritative list of current, fully Open Access, peer-reviewed journals. It includes over 2,800 journals, and more than one new title is added every day.

**Searchability:** ★★★★★ 1/2

Clean, aesthetic, highly functional interface with a variety of search options. Could use a more robust keyword search option and advanced search functionality.

**Contract Options:** N/A.

Open Access per the Budapest Open Access Initiative means that journals included in DOAJ are not only free, but available for use—no permission needed to hand out in class, for e-reserves or coursepacks, data mining to support new approaches to research.

**Pricing:** N/A

Free. Membership and sponsorship options available.



## DOAJ in numbers – april 2008

- 3300+ journals,
- 1100+ journals with metadata on article level,
- 175.000+ articles cross searchable directly from DOAJ,
- 600+ journals added during the last 12 months,
- fastest growth during a 12 months period since the launch of the service May 2003
- 7 mill+ page views per month (50% increase compared with 2006)
- visits from more than 160 countries every month
- 15.000+ institutions are linking into DOAJ
- 1.500.000+ users are every month redirected to the full text of OA-journals via searches in the DOAJ.
- Always among top 3 referring sites to Open Access Journals according to OA-publishers in the DOAJ

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## Sponsors



We acknowledge the support from the above organizations/companies.



Thank you for your attention!

&

Thank you so much for your support!!





## Links

DOAJ – [www.doaj.org](http://www.doaj.org)

Lars Björnshauge:

[lars.bjornshauge@lub.lu.se](mailto:lars.bjornshauge@lub.lu.se)

